

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DC LEFT BEGINS SAINT VINCENT MEETING: FOREIGN POLICY

1. THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT FORZE NUOVE (DC-LEFT) FACTION, HEAD BY DONAT CATTIN, OPENED ITS ANNUAL MEETING AT SAINT VINCENT (PIEDMONT) ON SEP 16. THIS YEAR, THE THREE-DAY GATHERING HAS TAKEN ON THE CHARACTER OF A CONVENTION OF THE ENTIRE DC LEFT, SINCE BASE AND MOROTEI LEADERS WERE ALSO INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. THE MEETING WILL ATEEMPT TO FORMULATE COHESIVE DC-LEFT POSITIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SEPTEMBER 22-25 DC PARLIAMENTARY SEMINARS AND THE OCT 7-9 DC NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING.

2. THE SESSIONS BEGAN WITH AN EVENING DISCUSSION OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES LED BY BASE LEADER GRANELLI (FORMER FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER-SECRETARY). ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, GRANELLI NOT UNEXPECTEDLY TOOK A LEFTIST LINE, DESCRIBING EURO-COMMUNISM AS THE BENEFICIAL RESULT OF EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICIES WHICH HAVE BEEN LESS TIED TO THE UNITED STATES.

3. GRANELLI CALLED ON THE DC TO INFLUENCE ITALIAN FOREIGN

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POLICY IN THREE AREAS. FIRSTLY, IT SHOULD WORK FOR A NEW

WORLD ORDER BASED ON "INTERNATIONAL PLURALISM" TO REPLACE THE "HEGEMONY OF THE GREAT POWERS." IN SO DOING, GRANELLI SEEMED TO EQUATE THE USSR AND THE US. HOWEVER, HE ALSO SPOKE OF THE NEED TO REAFFIRM THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE OF PEOPLES VERSUS "THE LOGIC OF YALTA"-- A REFERENCE THAT APPEARS TO BE CRITICAL OF SOVIET INFLUENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE. SECONDLY, GRANELLI CALLED FOR A CLOSER ITALIAN ALIGNMENT WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE THIRD WORLD AND THE NARROWING OF THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR NATIONS. FINALLY, THE DC SHOULD ADOPT EUROPEAN POLICIES WHICH PROVIDE FOR GREATER INDEPENDENCE FROM THE US AND MORE AUTONOMY IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE USSR. ON THE 1978 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, GRANELLI SAID THE DC SHOULD NOT TREAT ALL EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTIES EQUALLY, TAKING CARE TO ALLY ITSELF ONLY WITH THE PROGRESSIVE PARTIES.

4. COMMENT: GRANELLI'S VIEWS ARE OF COURSE NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ENTIRE PARTY. IT IS PERHAPS SIGNIFICANT THAT IL POPOLO (DC DAILY), EDITED BY A ZACCAGNINI LOYALIST, GAVE THEM SCANT ATTENTION. END COMMENT.

5. THE AGENDA FOR TODAY'S SESSION CONCENTRATES ON DC INTERNAL PROBLEMS. THIS SUBJECT WILL BE ADDRESSED BY DE MITA (BASE) AND BODRATO (FORZA NUOVE). MORLINO (MOROTEI) WILL ALSO SPEAK ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. ON SATURDAY, DONAT-CATTIN AND DC DEPUTY SECRETARY GALLONI (BASE) WILL BE THE FEATURED SPEAKERS, WITH DONAT CATTIN WRAPPING UP THE DEBATE ON SUNDAY MORNING. BEAUDRY

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